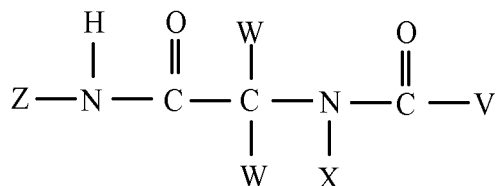


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

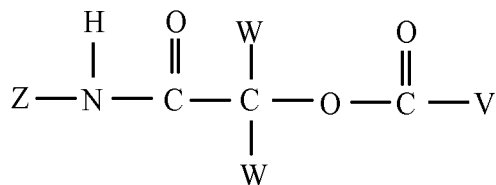
Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



formula (Ia)

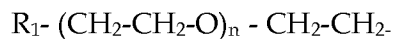
or



formula (Ib)

in which

the residues V, W, X and Z are in each case, independently of each other, a hydrocarbon residue which can contain heteroatoms and/or V, W and/or X is/are hydrogen, wherein at least one of the residues V, W, X and/or Z contains a binding group Y and ~~in that~~ the residues V, W, X and Z together ~~exhibit~~ comprise at least two groups of the residues which have formula (IIa)



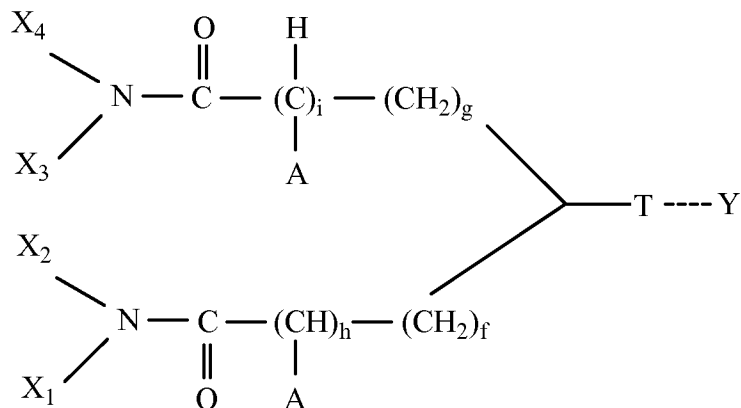
formula (IIa)

in which

R₁ is H, hydroxy or a hydrocarbon residue which has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and which can contain heteroatoms, and

n is, on each occasion independently, an integer of from 3 to 1000.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein the binding group Y is selected from groups which are able to covalently bind to an amino group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, a guanidine group, a carbonyl group, a hydroxyl group, a heterocycle, a C-nucleophilic group, a C-electrophilic group, a phosphate or a sulfate, or are able to form a chelate or a complex with metals or are able to bond to silicon-containing surfaces.
3. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein ~~it~~ the compound contains comprises at least three ~~groups of the~~ residues which have formula (IIa).
4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of the residues X and/or Z is branched and ~~contains comprises~~ at least two ~~groups of the~~ residues which have formula (IIa).
5. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of the residues X and/or Z additionally ~~possesses~~ comprises a targeting group.
6. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A compound having the formula (XIV)



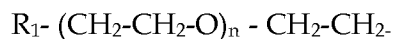
in which

h and i are, on each occasion independently, 0 or 1,

g and f are, on each occasion independently, an integer between 0 and 10,

A is, on each occasion, H or $-(\text{CO})-\text{NX}_2$, and

X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 , and also X, have, in each case independently of each other, the meanings given above for X, where the compound formula (XIV) exhibits comprises at least two groups of the residues which have formula (IIa)



formula (IIa)

in which

R_1 is H, hydroxy or a hydrocarbon residue which has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and which can contain 5 heteroatoms, and

n is, on each occasion independently, an integer of from 3 to 1000.

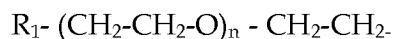
7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compounds of the formulae



and



are reacted with each other, as starting compounds, in a multicomponent reaction, where V', W', X' and Z' are, in each case independently of each other, a hydrocarbon residue which can optionally contain heteroatoms and/or V', W' and/or X' are hydrogen, where at least one of the residues V', W', X' and Z' contains a binding group Y and where the residues V', W', X' and Z' together ~~possess~~ comprise at least two ~~groups of the~~ residues which have formula (IIa)



formula (IIa)

in which

R₁ is H, hydroxy or a hydrocarbon residue which has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and which can contain heteroatoms, and

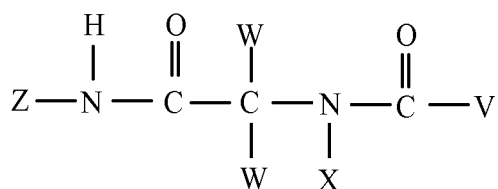
n is, on each occasion independently, an integer of from 3 to 1000.

8. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein at least one of the residues V', W', X' and/or Z' contains at least one further functionality selected from the group consisting of NH₂, C=O, NC ~~and/or~~ and COOH.

9. (Withdrawn) A conjugate which comprises a compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, which is covalently bonded to a biopharmaceutical, pharmaceutical and/or synthetic active compound.
10. (Withdrawn) A conjugate which comprises a compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, which is covalently bonded to a surface and/or a biocatalyst.
11. (Withdrawn) A conjugate which comprises a compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, which is covalently bonded to an enzyme.
12. (Withdrawn) A conjugate which comprises a compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, which is covalently bonded to medicinal products or adjuvants for administering active compounds.
13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as claimed in claim 1.
14. (Previously Presented) A diagnostic composition which comprises a compound as claimed in claim 1.
15. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical for treating cancer or coronary diseases, metabolic diseases, comprising the conjugate as claimed in claim 9.
16. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a substance library, wherein at least two different compounds as claimed in claim 1 are prepared using the method as claimed in claim 7 or 8.
17. (Withdrawn) A substance library which comprises at least two different compounds of

the formula (I), as defined in claim 1.

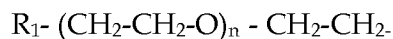
18. (Withdrawn) A kit which comprises:
- (a) at least one compound as claimed in claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;
 - (b) buffer solutions and, where appropriate;
 - (c) standard proteins and/or means for purifying conjugates which have been formed together with the compound from (a).
19. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the conjugate as claimed in claim 9.
20. (Withdrawn) A diagnostic composition comprising the conjugate as claimed in claim 9.
21. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



formula (Ia)

in which

the residues V, W, X and Z are in each case, independently of each other, a hydrocarbon residue which can contain heteroatoms and/or V, W and/or X is/are hydrogen, wherein at least one of the residues V, W, X and/or Z contains a binding group Y and in that the residues V, W, X and Z together ~~exhibit~~ comprise at least two ~~groups of the~~ residues which have formula (IIa)



formula (IIa)

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AMENDMENT B
Reply to Office Action of January 16, 2009

in which

R_1 is H, hydroxy or a hydrocarbon residue which has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and which can contain heteroatoms, and

n is, on each occasion independently, an integer of from 3 to 1000.